

Amendments to the Specification

On page 5 of the application, please replace:

“Figure 4 shows PCR amplifications targeting the 16S rRNA gene in *Escherichia coli* in the presence of varying amounts of sorbitol, 0.15M sorbitol and 1.25% DMSO, or no additive, run on an agarose gel. The desired product is at 1500bp. Panel 4a shows lane numbers 1 through 30, and Panel 4b shows lane numbers 31 through 67.”

With:

“Figure 4a shows PCR amplifications targeting the 16S rRNA gene in *Escherichia coli* in the presence of varying amounts of sorbitol, 0.15M sorbitol and 1.25% DMSO, or no additive, run on an agarose gel. The desired product is at 1500bp. Lane numbers 1 through 30 are shown.”

“Figure 4b shows PCR amplifications targeting the 16S rRNA gene in *Escherichia coli* in the presence of varying amounts of sorbitol, 0.15M sorbitol and 1.25% DMSO, or no additive, run on an agarose gel. The desired product is at 1500bp. Lane numbers 31 through 67 are shown.”